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Ministry
of the
Environment

Hon. George A. Kerr, Q.C.,
Minister
Everett Biggs,
Deputy Minister

about pesticides

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FALL WEBWORM

The fall webworm, *Hyphantria cunea*, forms large, loosely woven greyish webs in late summer over the ends of branches of ash, box-elder, flowering crab and many shade trees. It does not attack evergreens. Several branches are sometimes covered by one of these webs. The webs enclose many pale yellow, black spotted, very hairy caterpillars about one-inch long, which feed upon the surface of the leaves. The web is formed in August and thus can readily be distinguished from the tents of the tent caterpillar, which are formed in the spring. The insect passes the winter in the form of a brown pupa enclosed in a lightly woven silken cocoon. These cocoons will be found in debris on the ground or sometimes under the bark of trees. The moths begin emerging during the spring and continue to come out over a long period. Both sexes are winged, satiny white, sometimes with brown or black spots. They lay their eggs on the leaves, in masses and the caterpillars hatching from these eggs construct webs over the leaves. The caterpillar feeds inside this web. They continue feeding for about 4 to 6 weeks until they are full-grown, crawl down the tree and construct the cocoons in which they pupate. There are two generations in a year.

CONTROL

Chemical control is seldom required. Webs and caterpillars may be removed by hand. If sprays are necessary,



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apply one of the following insecticides in water in the amount listed and spray as soon as the caterpillars begin feeding.

	<u>100 gallons water</u>	<u>1 gallon water</u>
* Sevin 85% WP	1 1/4 lb.	1 1/4 tablespoons
Sevin 50% WP	2 lb.	2 tablespoons
methoxychlor 25% WP	2 quarts	4 teaspoons
malathion 50% EC	1 quart	2 teaspoons
* diazinon 50% EC	3/4 pint	3/4 teaspoon
* Thiodan 4 EC	1 pint	1 teaspoon
Thuricide	1½ - 3 pints	1½ - 3 teaspoons
Dipel	½ lb.	½ tablespoon

* available to licenced exterminator only.

Thiodan is very toxic to fish. Do not apply on or near water.

Should you require additional information, contact your local Pesticide Control Specialist.

All of the above chemical recommendations have been endorsed by the Ontario Pesticides Advisory Committee in "1975-76 Production Recommendations for Ornamentals and Turf", Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Publication 383.

REFERENCES

Insects and Mites of Ornamental Trees and Shrubs,
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food,
Publication #93.

Destructive and Useful Insects,
Metcalf, Flint and Metcalf.